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19 SEP 2006

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP
1700 DIAGNOSTIC ROAD, SUITE 300
ALEXANDRIA VA 22314

In re Application of :
GUIONNET et al. :
Application No.: 10/518,289. :
PCT No.: PCT/FR02/02368 :
Int. Filing Date: 05 July 2002 : DECISION
Priority Date: None :
Attorney Docket No.: 4590-363 :
For: METHOD FOR SERIAL PRODUCTION OF :
SECURE DOCUMENTS AND MACHINE THEREFOR :

This is a decision on applicants' renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) filed 17 July 2006 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

BACKGROUND

On 05 July 2002, applicants filed international application PCT/FR02/02368, which designated the United States and does not claim priority to an earlier application. A copy of the international application was communicated from the International Bureau to the USPTO on 15 January 2004. The thirty-month period for paying the basic national fee in the United States expired at midnight on 05 January 2005.

On 17 December 2004, applicants filed a submission for entry into the national stage in the United States which was accompanied by, *inter alia*, the U.S. Basic National Fee, a translation of the application into English, and a declaration of inventors signed by four of the five joint inventors.

On 21 December 2005, the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) mailed a NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) indicating, *inter alia*, that an oath or declaration of the inventors in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a)-(b) and the surcharge under 37 CFR 1.492(h) for filing any of the search fee, the examination fee, or the oath or declaration after the date of the commencement of the national stage.

On 21 March 2006, applicants filed a petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) which was accompanied by, *inter alia*, a petition/fee for a one-month extension of time, a statement of facts by Vladimir Chaverneff, a copy of a returned registered mail envelope, copies of internet searches for nonsigning inventor Sebastian Guionet, and the required surcharge.

On 21 June 2006, a decision was mailed dismissing applicants' petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) without prejudice because the declaration of inventors filed 17 December 2004 was not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.69(b).

On 17 July 2006, applicants submitted the instant renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), which was accompanied by a statement attesting to the accuracy of the translation of the declaration of inventors filed 17 December 2004.

DISCUSSION

A petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) must be accompanied by: (1) the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(h); (2) factual proof that the missing joint inventor refuses to execute the application or cannot be reached after diligent effort; (3) a statement of the last known address of the missing inventor; and (4) an oath or declaration by each 37 CFR 1.47(a) applicant on his or her own behalf and on behalf of the non-signing joint inventor.

As noted in the decision mailed 21 June 2006, items (1)-(3) have been met.

As to item (4), the statement by Vladimir Chaverneff included with the instant submission satisfies 37 CFR 1.69(b).

CONCLUSION

For the above reasons, applicants' renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) is **GRANTED**.

As provided in 37 CFR 1.47(a), a notice of the filing of this application will be forwarded to non-signing inventor at his last known address of record.

A notice of the filing of the application under 37 CFR 1.47(a) will be published in the Official Gazette.

This application is being forwarded to the National Stage Processing Branch of the Office of PCT Operations to continue national stage processing of the application, including the accordation of a 35 U.S.C. §§371(c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4) date of **17 December 2004**.



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In re Application of
GUIONNET et al.
Application No.: 10/518,289
PCT No.: PCT/FR02/02368
Int. Filing Date: 05 July 2002
Priority Date: None
Attorney Docket No.: 4590-363
For: METHOD FOR SERIAL PRODUCTION OF SECURE DOCUMENTS AND MACHINE
THEREFOR

Dear Mr. Guionnet:

You are named as an inventor in the above-captioned United States national stage application, filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.47(a) and 35 U.S.C. 116. Should a patent be granted, you will be designated as an inventor.

As a named inventor, you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or to make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent agent or attorney presenting written authorization from you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

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